

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Commands transmitted from an image processing controller to an engine are classified into a plurality of layers in response to the information contents of the commands and when the engine receives a command of a subordinate layer, it recognizes that the command is received together with the command of a superior layer to that command, last issued preceding the command. Therefore, the engine performs internal control in accordance with the second command of the subordinate layer received and the first command of the superior layer not received at the time, but last received preceding the second command. For various instructions concerning execution of print, the commands of the superior layer of commands representing the instructions are made common.